

Mr. Potter offered the following resolutions, with a few eloquent remarks on the character of the deceased:

1st. *Resolved*, That the Senate has heard with profound regret of the death of Hiram G. Runnels, a member elect of this Senate, from the county of Harris.

2d. That in this melancholy event the country has sustained an irreparable loss. He was a gentleman distinguished by his public services; by his enlightened views of public policy; by his unflinching devotion to the interests of the country, and by his tried patriotism.

3d. That we tender to the family of the deceased our sincere condolence in this their sad bereavement.

4th. That the Senate will manifest their respect for the memory of the deceased by wearing the usual badge of mourning, and that a copy of these resolutions be transmitted to the family of the deceased.

5th. That the Senate now adjourn until to-morrow morning at 10 o'clock.

Mr. Herbert, on seconding the resolutions, also made a few appropriate remarks, when the resolutions were unanimously adopted.

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TUESDAY, December 22, 1857.

The Senate met pursuant to adjournment—prayer by the Chaplain—roll called—quorum present.

The Journal of yesterday was read and adopted.

Mr. Graham, from the committee on State Affairs, to which was referred a bill to exempt certain property from execution and forced sale, reported the same back to the Senate and recommended its passage without amendment.

Mr. Walker introduced a bill for the relief of A. F. Pickett; read first and second times and referred to the committee on Public Lands.

Mr. Taylor, of Houston, introduced a bill to better define the mode of taking testimony to be read in evidence in the trial of causes in the District and other courts of this State; read first and second times and referred to the committee on the Judiciary.

#### ORDERS OF THE DAY.

A bill to authorize the sale of the Public Domain being under consideration when the Senate adjourned on Saturday, and not being reached on yesterday, was taken up.

Mr. Taylor, of Fannin, moved that the bill be made the special order of the day, for the first Wednesday in January ; lost.

On motion of Mr. Grimes, the bill under consideration, together with a bill to authorize the sale and settlement of the alternate sections of land reserved to the State in Fisher and Miller's Colony &c., was referred to the committee on Public Lands.

On motion of Mr. Throckmorton, a bill to amend the charter, and for the relief of the Houston, Texas Central Railway Company, with the report of the Committee on Internal Improvements, offering amendments thereto, was taken up; read and amendments adopted.

Mr. Taylor, of Cass offered the following amendment :

*"Provided,* That should this company hereafter apply for an extension of time for the completion of any section of their road, they shall forfeit all right to a loan from the State for said section, under an act to provide for the investment of the Special School fund in the Bonds of Railroad Companies &c.

Lost by the following vote.

YEAS—Messrs. Lott, Taylor, of Cass, Taylor, of Houston and Walker—4.

NAYS—Messrs. Britton, Burroughs, Caldwell, Fall, Graham, Grimes, Guinn, Hyde, McCulloch, Martin, Paschal, Pirkey, Potter, Throckmorton, Truitt, Wigfall and Wren—19.

The bill was then ordered to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Throckmorton, the rule was suspended, bill read a third time and passed by the following vote :

YEAS—Messrs. Britton, Burroughs, Caldwell, Fall, Graham, Grimes, Guinn, Hyde, Lott, McCulloch, Martin, Pirkey, Paschal, Potter, Russell, Scarborough, Taylor, of Cass, Taylor, of Fannin, Taylor, of Houston, Throckmorton, Truitt, Walker, Wigfall and Wren—24.

NAYS—None.

A bill to release the right of the State to Mines, Minerals, Salt Licks and Salt Springs, special order for Wednesday last, was read and ordered to be engrossed.

On motion of Mr. Taylor, of Cass, the rule was suspended, bill read a third time and passed.

A bill for the relief of Joseph Baker was read and passed to a third reading.

On motion of Mr. Wren, the rule was suspended, bill read a third time and passed.

A House bill to authorize the County Courts of the several counties of the State to increase the pay of the Grand and Petit Juries was read, and

On motion of Mr. Guinn, indefinitely postponed.

A House bill to regulate the pay of the Grand and Petit Jurors in the county of Smith, was read second time.

On motion of Mr. Potter, the bill was amended by striking out the repealing clause.

The bill was then passed to a third reading, by the following vote :

YEAS—Messrs. Burroughs, Fall, Graham, Grimes, Hyde, Lott, Martin, Paschal, Russell, Throckmorton, Truitt, Wigfall and Wren—13.

NAYS—Messrs. Britton, Caldwell, Guinn, McCulloch, Pirkey, Potter, Scarborough. Stockdale, Taylor, of Cass and Taylor, of Houston—10.

On motion of Mr. Guinn, the rule was suspended, bill read a third time and passed.

Mr. Taylor, of Cass, moved a reconsideration of the vote indefinitely postponing a bill to authorize the several counties in the State to increase the pay of Grand and Petit Jurors ; lost.

A bill to provide for the incorporation of Towns and Cities, read third time and passed.

A bill to authorize the Commissioner of the General Land Office to cancel patent No 815, Vol. 8, &c., with report from the committee on the Judiciary offering amendments thereto, was read, amendments adopted, and bill passed to a third reading.

On motion of Mr. Britton, rule suspended, bill read third time and passed.

A bill supplemental to an act to perfect land titles in Castro's Colony, approved July 22, 1850, was read, and on motion of Mr. Graham, laid on the table.

A bill to regulate the trial by Jury and Jury Fees in civil cases was read, and on motion of Mr. Guinn, laid on the table.

On motion of Mr. Graham, the Senate adjourned, until to-morrow 10 o'clock, A. M.